

4 FEB 1948

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ARMY, DOS, DIA reviews

GENERAL

1. Top Rumanian officials called to Moscow--US Minister Schoenfeld in Bucharest reports that all major Rumanian cabinet ministers were summoned to Moscow on 31 January. Schoenfeld speculates that the ministers were summoned because the Kremlin (a) believes the Satellites have gone "too far too fast" and consequently desires to lay down a modified party line, particularly in regard to Greece, and (b) wishes to discuss major changes in the Rumanian Government consequent to the planned fusion of the Communist and Socialist parties and the formulation of a new constitution.

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(CIA Comment: It is also likely that such a meeting was called in order to conclude a new long-term Soviet-Rumanian trade agreement similar to the recent pacts signed with the USSR by Poland and Czechoslovakia.)

EUROPE

2. SPAIN: Vatican outlines its policy toward Spain--Vatican Under Secretary of State Tardini has informed Acting US Representative Parsons that the Vatican is in "full agreement" with US policy on Spain

According to Tardini, the Vatican advocates that a sympathetic attitude toward the Spanish people be substituted for the present anti-Franco pressure and be demonstrated by the sending of ambassadors to Spain. Concerning Franco and Don Juan, Tardini reports that: (a) efforts to bring them together have been close to success several times; (b) Franco might be willing to leave the Government if he could be made Chief of Army, a condition

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Don Juan does not accept; and (c) Don Juan is overhasty to gain power and Franco is in too little hurry to relinquish it.

Parsons remarks that Tardini sees the "evolution of the Spanish state in terms of prior agreement at the top rather than a broad measure of agreement among different Spanish elements" as a preferable method of guaranteeing the interests of the Church. Parsons believes that the Vatican may currently be active in facilitating negotiations between Don Juan and Franco.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that an agreement between Franco and Don Juan is not an early possibility and that, even if made, such an agreement would give Spain only temporary stability because the forces supporting such a government would be too narrowly based. The Vatican's preference for such an arrangement is not in accord with the US policy of seeking the emergence of a broadly-based Spanish Government.)

3. **BELGIUM: Precautions taken against Communist activity -**
The US Military Attache in Brussels reports that the Belgian Government and Army are taking seriously a rumor of Communist action at the end of February or during March. The MA cites as evidence Belgian plans to: (a) return military units from Germany; (b) alert gendarme, commando, and parachute units; and (c) call up air force and police reserves. The MA adds that all plans are precautionary and states his belief that no actual danger is probable.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that serious Communist violence in Belgium is a distinct possibility, but would be attempted only in conjunction with similar action in France, and is not likely to occur before the middle of March.)

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